



Janice K. Brewer  
GOVERNOR

# MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012  
1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007



MG Hugo E. Salazar  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

## MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

- I. **Call to Order:** Co-Chair Tom Finnegan called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m. The Commission did not have a quorum present so the meeting was for information purposes only. No decisions were made.
- II. **Roll Call:** The following Commissioners were present.
  - Thomas M. Finnegan, Colonel (*Ret.*) US Army - Member w/ Expertise in Military Affairs, Co-chair
  - Hugo Salazar, Major General - Advisory Member
  - Michael Werner, Bureau of Land Management - Advisory Member
  - Michael C. Francis - Private Property Interests Member
  - Priscilla Storm, Tucson - Private Property Interests Member
  - Robert Johnston, Lieutenant General (*Ret.*) USMC, Tucson - Member w/ Expertise in Military Affairs
  - Robert Kuckuk, Colonel US Marines – Advisory Member
- III. **Old Business**
  - a. **Proposition 119 update**

Mr. Finnegan noted Proposition 119, which amends the Arizona Constitution to allow the State to exchange trust land for other public land in Arizona had been passed by the voters. He inquired on further steps that should be taken to continue the process. Mr. Finnegan suggested that the Commissioners look around their prospective areas for potential land that would apply to this amendment.
  - b. **Commission vacancies update**

Mr. Finnegan informed the Commission that Maria Baier, a current Advisory Member, had resigned from her position as Commissioner of the State Land Department. Vanessa Hickman was named as her replacement and would be assuming her position on the Commission. Additionally, Brigadier General Harris would no longer be serving on the Commission and Colonel Robert Kuckuk would be taking his place as an advisory member representing the Arizona Commanders' Summit. Ryan Owens, Policy Advisor to Governor Brewer, stated that he would review statute to determine if Col. Kuckuk and Ms. Hickman would need the Governor's appointment to serve on the Commission. Mr. Finnegan explained that he and Ms. Atkins will proceed with Jim Miller from Pinal/Maricopa County and Rick Coffman from Cochise County appointed to vacant positions on the Commission. He also noted that Bryan Martyn was no longer serving on the Commission and that his position would need to be filled by an elected official within Pinal County.
  - c. **State Council on the Education of Military Children update**

Mr. Owens informed the Commission on the recently established State Council on the Education of Military Children. This Council was instituted in statute as part of a larger national campaign designed to open dialogue on issues faced by military children. The forty-three states which have created councils will work together and discuss and coordinate efforts to meet the needs of the children. The Council is scheduled to meet in January for the first time. Mr. Owens will notify the Commission once the meeting date is finalized.



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## **d. MCAS-Yuma F-35 update**

Colonel Robert Kuckuk reported to the Commission that the landing ceremony for the first F-35 went very well. Colonel Kuckuk provided a briefing with photos of the new facilities at MCAS-Yuma which also accommodates the growth of future F-35 squadrons. Future updates will be provided as more aircraft come to Yuma.

## **e. Arizona Commanders' Summit update**

Mr. Kevin O'Berry notified the Commission on the Arizona Commanders' Summit (ACS) meeting held at Papago Park Military Installation on September 5, 2012. ACS is a military working group which is comprised of the Installation Commanders in the State as well as other interested parties. Three additional non-voting members were included this year, the Commissioner of the Arizona State Land Department, the Bureau of Land Management and the Director of Game and Fish. The ACS meeting highlighted issues such as planning for F-35 range and airspace requirements, minimizing the cost of land leases set for renewal, creating GIS data which will display interactive land maps for the public, and dealing with installation encroachment issues as a group.

## **f. MIF rules-making update**

John Burk from DEMA provided an update on the rules-making process for the Military Installation Fund (MIF). The proposed rules are posted on the Secretary of State's website for a 30-day comment period. The public hearing regarding the proposed rules is scheduled for December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. in Russell Auditorium at Papago Park Military Reservation. Once final comments are adjudicated, then the final rules will be submitted to the Governor's Regulatory Review Council (GRRC) for approval on their February agenda. Once the rules are approved, DEMA will be able to accept applications for land purchases and other appropriate uses of the Military Installation Fund.

## **IV. New Business**

### **a. 7901 S. Rita Road, Tucson MIF property briefing**

John Burk from DEMA provided a briefing with photos of the abandoned church on a MIF property in Tucson. DEMA is working with Tucson Police and Fire Departments to render the building safe which includes installing a fence around the building and posting "no trespassing" signs around the MIF parcels adjacent the abandoned church. In the future, the Commission will have to decide what to do with the abandoned church: lease, sell, or demolish all of which must meet compatible use criteria.

### **b. Housing and Multifamily Housing in AZP1 and 801dn, Tucson briefing**

Ms. Priscilla Storm presented pictures and maps on the property surrounding Davis-Monthan AFB. She provided information on areas affected by noise as well as those within the flight path. Ms. Storm's presentation displayed photos of property for sale ranging from \$13,000 to \$104,000. Ms. Storm recommended that the Commission take up the issue of what should be done with these properties long term to reduce encroachment on Davis Monthan and find compatible uses for the property. No action was taken, this was an information item only.

### **c. Snowbird Operation EA, Davis Monthan AFB briefing**

Scott Hines from Davis Monthan AFB provided a briefing on the Snowbird Environmental Assessment that is ongoing with local stakeholders and the Department of the Air Force. The Snowbird facilities at Davis-Monthan provide space for Air National Guard units from across the U.S. to use the AFB for training during the winter which means many different aircraft fly in and out of the base over several months. The Environmental Assessment is determining the noise and flight path impacts of multiple aircraft types in conjunction with the frequency of such flights and whether an Environmental Impact Study is warranted.



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## **d. Dark Spectrum/Dark Sky Zone Initiative briefing**

Dr. Paul Shankland, Director Naval Observatory Flagstaff and Bob Breault, Chair, AZ Optics Industry Association delivered a presentation on why Arizona is a National Spectrum-Quiet Asset to the military which must be preserved for national security reasons. Arizona is one of the last locations in the U.S. that has been least impacted by light and electromagnetic spectrum pollution due to development. The Dark Spectrum/Dark Sky Zone initiative aligns well with Arizona's defense industry preservation and growth initiatives. Federal and State legislation can help preserve Arizona's dark spectrum and dark sky zones.

## **e. Potential State and Federal Legislative Initiatives briefing**

Amy Duffy provided a post-election update of federal and state legislators who represent military installations within their districts; State legislative leadership and legislators with assignments to Military Affairs committees were highlighted. Legislative topics of interest to the MAC were also reviewed.

## **V. Calendar Dates and Locations**

- a. The next meeting shall be determined by the progress of the MIF rules approval process through GRRC. Late February or early March will be the most likely timeframe for the next MAC meeting.

## **VI. Call to the Public**

- a. No comments were made by the public.

## **VII. Adjournment:** November 28th, 2012 at 12:37 p.m.